

RECEIVED  
CENTRAL FAX CENTER  
JUL 14 2006

8294-2:JMD:#409249

## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
Paul M. WICKENS ) Before the Examiner  
Serial No. 10/736,417 ) Raleigh W. Chiu  
Filed December 15, 2003 ) Group Art Unit 3711  
APPARATUS FOR SUPPORTING ) July 14, 2006  
ELONGATE STICKS )

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being  
telefaxed to the United States Patent and  
Trademark Office via Fax No. (571)-273-8300

on  
July 14, 2006

(Date of Deposit)

James M. Durlacher

Name of Registered Representative

*James M. Durlacher*

Signature

July 14, 2006

Date of Signature

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Commissioner for Patents  
P. O. Box 1450  
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450  
Sir:

## INTRODUCTORY COMMENTS

Please enter the following preliminary amendment in the above identified  
application prior to examination.

A request for a two month is being submitted with a separate document filed  
concurrently herewith. Please provide any additional extensions of time which are  
required and charge any additional fees which may be due or credit any overpayments to  
Deposit Account No. 23-3030.

Preliminary Amendment  
Paul Wickens, Inventor  
Atty. Docket No. 8294-2  
Page 1 of 8

07/17/2006 MBINAS 00000011 10736417

02 FC:2202

75.00 0P